

REMARKS

In response to the election requirement, applicants have elected, subject to traverse, to prosecute the species of Figs. 1-4 and each of claims 1-14 reading thereon. The indication that claim 1 is generic is acknowledged with appreciation. Independent claims 1 and 8 are both believed to read on the elected species of Figs. 1-4.


Upon allowance of a generic claim, applicants will submit claims to the additional species of Figs. 5 and 6 as permitted by 37 C.F.R. 1.141.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the election requirement is requested for the following reasons. Even though the species are patentably distinct, they are so closely related that no expanded search or significant additional effort will be required by the Patent Office to examine in this application claims to each of the species, and the best interests of applicants and the public will be served by the granting of a single patent containing all the claims directed to all of the patentable subject matter disclosed in this application. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the election requirement is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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